

Antonio J. Busalacchi
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Antonio J. Busalacchi received his Ph.D. degree in oceanography from Florida State University in 1982. He has studied tropical ocean circulation and its role in the coupled climate system. His research in these areas has supported a range of international and national research programs dealing with global change and climate, particularly as affected by the oceans. In 1999 he was appointed Co-Chairman of the Scientific Steering Group for the World Climate Research Programme (WCRP) on Climate Variability and Predictability (CLIVAR). Previously, he served as Chairman of both the Climate Research Committee and the Committee on Earth Science and Application: Ensuring the Climate Measurements from NPOESS and GOES-R for the National Academy of Science/National Research Council (NAS/NRC). In 2008 he was elected as Chairman of the Joint Scientific Committee for the WCRP. Presently, he serves as Chair, NAS/NRC Board on Atmospheric Sciences and Climate, Co-Chair NAS/NRC Committee on National Security Implications of Climate Change for US Naval Forces, Member, NAS/NRC America's Climate Choices: Panel on Advancing the Science of Climate Change, Member, NAS/NRC Committee on Earth Studies, Member, IOM/NRC Committee on the Effect of Climate Change on Indoor Air Quality and Public Health, and Chair, NOAA's Climate Working Group.

In 1982 Busalacchi began his professional career at the NASA/Goddard Space Flight Center. In 1991, he was appointed as Chief of the NASA/Goddard Laboratory for Hydrospheric Processes, and was responsible for research in the oceanic, cryospheric, and hydrologic sciences. In year 2000, he was selected as the founding director of the Earth System Science Interdisciplinary Center (ESSIC) at the University of Maryland and appointed to the faculty as Professor in the Department of Meteorology. Professor Busalacchi has received numerous awards and honors. Among these, in 1991, he was the recipient of the prestigious Arthur S. Flemming Award, as one of five outstanding young scientists in the entire Federal Government. In 1995 he was selected as Alumnus of the Year at Florida State University, in 1997 he was the H. Burr Steinbach Visiting Scholar at Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution, in 1999 he was awarded the NASA/Goddard Excellence in Outreach Award and that same year chosen by President Clinton to receive the Presidential Rank Meritorious Executive Award. He is a Fellow of the American Meteorological Society (AMS), the American Geophysical Union (AGU), and in 2006 was selected by the AMS to be the Walter Orr Roberts Interdisciplinary Science Lecturer.